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Amendments to the claims:

1 - 9 (Canceled)

10. (Currently amended): A homopolar machine comprising:

a shaft;

an armature assembly coupled to the shaft that includes a cylinder having a pair of spaced apart generally radially extending flanges,

first and second stators arrays that encircle the armature assembly;

a negative bus connected to a first stator,

a positive bus connected to a second stator,

a first negative brush assembly carried by said first stator for contact with said armature at one location; said brush assembly including brushes, an actuator and a holder designed to effect said contact with said armature.

which holder includes (a) radially aligned stem disposed between a pair of parallel flat plates that are mounted in fixed relation to said first stator and (b) a slidable component which carries a plurality of said first negative brushes and which is slidable between said parallel plates.

said stem being formed with a pair of opposed parallel surfaces that are perpendicular to said flat plates, and said slidable component including a pair of flexible heads that engage said opposed stem surfaces, and

a second negative brush assembly carried by said armature for contact with said second stator, as a result of their negative charge, the lifetime of said brushes is substantially extended compared to comparable positively charged brushes.

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11 - 14 (Canceled)

15. (Currently Amended): The homopolar machine in accordance with claim 14 10 wherein said flexible heads include a stack of generally parallel ribbons cut by EDM from conductive metal.

16. (Original): The homopolar machine in accordance with claim 15 wherein said heads are mounted so that said ribbons are flexed against said opposed surfaces.

17 - 18 (Canceled).

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